

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03

MC-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-20 DODE-00 RSR-01

/113 W

----- 032487

R 231235Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4065

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0826

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS MP

SUBJECT: HELICOPTER FOR MAURITIUS

REF:(A) PORT LOUIS 0255; (B) PORT LOUIS 0184

1. PRO-PMSD (MEMBER PARTY OF GOVERNMENT COALITION) NEWSPAPER POPULAIRE RECENTLY STATED THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAD AGREED DONATE HELICOPTER TO GOM. THIS INFORMATION CONFIRMED BY FRENCH CHARGE, WHO STATED THAT REQUEST WAS NOT CHanneled THROUGH HIS EMBASSY BUT MADE DIRECTLY BY PRIMIN RAMGOOLAM DURING JUNE TRIP TO FRANCE (REF:PORT LOUIS A-096). APPARENTLY, FRENCH SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COOPERATION DENIAU INFORMED GOM OF FRENCH ACCEDENCE TO REQUEST WHEN HE ARRIVED LAST WEEK ON VACATION TRIP TO THIS COUNTRY (PORT LOUIS 807).

2. FRENCH CHARGE EXPRESSED CERTAIN UNHAPPINESS OVER THIS DEVELOPMENT, MAINLY SINCE FRENCH EMBASSY WOULD BE CHARGED WITH MAINTENANCE OF HELICOPTER, PROVISION OF FLIGHT PERSONNEL, ETC.

3. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION SOURCE STATES THAT UK HAD (AS WELL AS OURSELVES) RECEIVED SIMILAR REQUESTS FROM GOM FOR SUCH AN AIRCRAFT. SAID UK ATTEMPTED PUT OFF GOM BY OFFERING INSTEAD FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT, HE ADMITS, HOWEVER, THAT HELICOPTER
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IS WHAT PRIMIN REALLY WANTS -- ESPECIALLY FOR USE IN POSSIBLE

INTERNAL SECURITY OPERATIONS. RESIGNEDLY, HE SAID THAT FRENCH HAVE BEST POSSIBILITY FOR SERVICING HELICOPTER, GIVEN MILITARY FACILITIES ON NEARBY REUNION.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH BRITISH HERE CONTINUE PLAY LEADING ROLE IN SECURITY FIELD, FTREGOING PROVIDES ANOTHER ILLUSTRATION (REF: PORT LOUIS A-165) OF HOW THEY WILLING ALLOW OTHER DONOR NATIONS ENTER THIS DOMAIN.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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